



National Child Care Information Center

A service of the Child Care Bureau

NCCIC

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MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS in EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Listed below is a sample of early childhood membership organizations that provide opportunities to become more involved in early childhood issues and to grow professionally. These organizations also have publications and resource materials available to members and the public.

■ **American Federation of Teachers (AFT)**

555 New Jersey Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20001

202-879-4400

World Wide Web: <http://www.aft.org>

The mission of AFT, American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), is to improve the lives of the members and their families; to give voice to their professional, economic, and social aspirations; to strengthen the institutions in which they work; to improve the quality of the services they provide; to bring together all members to assist and support one another; and to promote democracy, human rights and freedom in the union, in the nation, and throughout the world.

■ **American Montessori Society (AMS)**

281 Park Avenue South

New York, NY 10010-6102

212-358-1250

800-238-1133 ext. 201

World Wide Web: <http://www.amshq.org/becomeAMember.htm>

AMS is a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory service organization dedicated to stimulating the use of the Montessori teaching approach in private and public schools. Member-supported, its funding comes mainly from Montessori certified teachers, schools, administrators, teacher education programs, parents of Montessori school children, and interested friends. Over twelve thousand strong, they are committed to furthering Montessori philosophy, making it a growing educational alternative, and promoting better education for all children.

■ **Association Montessori Internationale (AMI)**

Koninginneweg 161

1075 CN Amsterdam

The Netherlands

+ 31 20 6798932

World Wide Web: <http://www.montessori-ami.org/2association/member.htm>

AMI's objectives are to maintain, propagate, and further the ideas and principles of Dr. Maria Montessori to promote the full development of the human being.

■ **Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)**

1110 North Glebe Road, Suite 300

Arlington, VA 22201

703-620-3660

World Wide Web: <http://www.cec.sped.org>

CEC is an international membership organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities. CEC publishes special education literature and produces a catalog of materials for parents and professionals twice a year.

The **Division for Early Childhood (DEC)** is one of 17 divisions of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). DEC is a membership organization for individuals who work with or on behalf of children with special needs, birth through age 8 years, and their families. Founded in 1973, the Division is dedicated to promoting policies and practices that support families and enhance the optimal development of children. Children with special needs include those who have disabilities, developmental delays, are gifted/talented, or are at risk of future developmental problems. The DEC homepage includes an index for *The Journal of Early Intervention* and *Young Exceptional Children*. It also includes information on publications, position statements, and conferences. For additional information, contact DEC at 406-243-5898 or on the Web at <http://www.dec-sped.org>.

■ **First Class Teachers**

555 New Jersey Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20001

202-662-8005

World Wide Web: <http://www.firstclassteachers.org>

First Class Teachers, an associate membership program of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), is organizing and mobilizing a diverse group of early childhood educators and their allies to advocate for fair and decent employment for this profession and reliable, affordable and high-quality early care and education services for families.

■ **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)**

1509 16th Street NW

Washington, DC 20036-1426

800-424-2460 or 202-232-8777

World Wide Web: <http://www.naeyc.org>

NAEYC is a nonprofit professional organization dedicated to improving the quality of care and education provided to our nation's young children. NAEYC has over 100,000 members, teachers, administrators, parents, policy-makers, and others committed to bringing high-quality early education and care to all young children.

NAEYC administers the Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation, a voluntary, national, accreditation system for high-quality early childhood programs; and the National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development, which provides resources and services to improve professional preparation and development of early childhood educators, and fosters development of a comprehensive, articulated system of high-quality professional development opportunities. In addition to the bimonthly journal *Young Children*, NAEYC publishes an

extensive array of books, brochures, videotapes, and posters. *Early Years Are Learning Years* are short articles designed for parents and other adults involved with children on a daily basis. *Early Years Are Learning Years* are available on the Web at <http://www.naeyc.org/ece/eyly>.

■ **National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)**

5202 Pinemont Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84123
801-269-9338

World Wide Web: <http://www.nafcc.org>

NAFCC is a national membership organization of family day care providers, and local and state family day care associations. It sponsors an annual national conference and an accreditation program for family child care providers. NAFCC has about 7,500 members and is governed by an executive committee and 10 regional representatives. NAFCC is focusing its efforts on supporting family child care associations and promoting quality through accreditation.

■ **National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI)**

1101 15th Street NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005
202-833-2220

World Wide Web: <http://www.nbcdi.org>

NBCDI is a nonprofit organization that serves as a critical resource for improving the quality of life for African American children, families, and communities through direct services, public education programs, leadership training, and research. NBCDI has affiliate chapters in many parts of the country and resources for parents and caregivers.

■ **National Child Care Association (NCCA)**

1016 Rosser Street
Conyers, GA 30012
800-543-7161

World Wide Web: <http://www.nccanet.org>

NCCA is an association representing the private, licensed early child care and education community. In addition to advocacy, NCCA strives to provide members with services and products that will enhance the business of operating a care and education program.

■ **National Education Association (NEA)**

1201 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-3290
202-833-4000

World Wide Web: <http://www.nea.org>

The NEA works to promote the cause of quality public education and advance the profession of education; expand the rights and further the interest of educational employees; and advocate for the human, civil, and economic rights of all. NEA has 2.7 million members who work at every level of education, from preschool to university graduate programs. NEA has affiliates in every State, as well as in more than 13,000 local communities across the United States. Anyone who works for a public school district, a college or university, or any other public institution devoted primarily to education is eligible to join NEA. NEA also has special membership categories

for retired educators and college students studying to become teachers.

■ **National Head Start Association (NHSA)**

1651 Prince Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-739-0875

World Wide Web: <http://www.nhsa.org>

NHSA is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated exclusively to meeting the needs of Head Start children and their families. It represents more than 900,000 children, 190,000 staff, and 2,500 Head Start programs in the United States. The Association provides support for the entire Head Start community by advocating for policies that strengthen services to Head Start children and their families; by providing extensive training and professional development to Head Start staff; and by developing and disseminating research, information, and resources that enrich Head Start program delivery.

■ **National AfterSchool Association (NAA)**

1137 Washington Street, 2nd Floor
Dorchester, MA 02124
617-298-5012

World Wide Web: <http://naaweb.org>

NAA (formerly the National School-Age Care Alliance), is the only national membership organization representing the entire array of public, private, and community-based providers of after-school programs. NAA has over 8,000 members and 36 affiliated State organizations. NAA promotes national standards of quality school-age care for children and youth 5–14 years old, and grants accreditation to programs meeting the standards.

■ **United States Association for Child Care (USA Child Care)**

2305 North Columbus Street
Arlington, VA 22207
703-875-8100

World Wide Web: <http://www.usachildcare.org>

USA Child Care is a national membership association of child care and early education providers and advocates who deliver services directly to children and families. The mission of USA Child Care is to serve as a national voice for these direct service providers to ensure that quality, comprehensive early care and education is affordable and accessible to all families.

The National Child Care Information Center does not endorse any organization, publication, or resource.

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